

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In RE:

APPLICANT(S): JACK V. SMITH

GROUP ART UNIT: 1648

S.N.: 09/283,318

EXAMINER: FOLEY, S.

FILING DATE: 3/31/99

DATE OF THIS RESPONSE: 04/13/03

FOR: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING AND DETECTING AND
NORMALIZING HIV FOR RAPID ANALYSIS**Amendment C of Rule 116**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated 02/26/03, the applicant respectfully
requests that the above application be amended as follows:

Amendments**Claims:**

23. A method for detecting HIV antibodies employing a dry chemistry test strip [means] to measure the HIV antibodies concentration in a [test sample] urine or blood without the use of ELISA and HPLC [. Western Blot and Thin Layer Liquid Phase] method[s] for analysis of HIV antibodies, wherein the said method comprises the steps of preparing a test means by successively impregnating an absorbent carrier matrix with reagent solutions [as follows] consisting essentially of :

- a) buffer and enzyme conjugated to HIV antigen; and ✓
- b) indicator substrate complex,

drying said test means, dipping completed test means into test sample, and determining the quantity of HIV antibodies present in said test sample by comparing the relative intensity of the color produced by the reaction of HIV antibody to the test means and